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(N.E.)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of Darby, et al.

Serial No.: 09/942,624

Art Unit: 2632

Filed: August 31, 2001

Examiner: D. Crosland

Title: A COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR INTERCONNECTED NETWORKS HAVING A LINEAR TOPOLOGY, ESPECIALLY RAILWAYS

REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION **RECEIVED**

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

SEP 25 2003
Technology Center 2600

Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action dated June 26, 2003, Applicant respectfully requests continued examination of the present application amended as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 1 of this paper.

In the Claims:

Claims 1-21 cancelled.

Claim 22 (currently amended): A method of determining a physical order of plural railcars in a train consist where the railcars are connected to each other through a pneumatic brake pipe and an RF communication link and where the train consist includes at least one head end unit (HEU), comprising the steps of:

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